Subject:	Committee Planning Workshop - feedback
Date:	08 October 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Ryan Black, Director Neighbourhood Services, City & Neighbourhood Services Siobhan Toland, Director City Services, City & Neighbourhood Services

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? **Yes** ☐ **No** ☒

    If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

        After Committee Decision ☐
        After Council Decision ☐
        Some time in the future ☐
        Never ☐

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? **Yes** ☒ **No** ☐

1.0	**Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**
1.1	This report provides a summary of feedback from the People & Communities Committee Planning workshop held on 10 September 2019.
2.0	**Recommendations**
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the report and agree to a draft Committee Plan being brought for consideration and agreement to Committee at a future date.
3.0	**Main report**
3.1	Members will recall that a Committee Planning workshop was held on10 September 2019.

		The Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services delivered an introductory presentation (see Appendix 1) outlining :

The Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services delivered an introductory presentation (see Appendix 1) outlining :

- An overview of draft council Corporate Plan 2019-23
- The opportunities and challenges facing the city and council
- Emerging priorities for the council
- Summary of the terms of reference of the committee
- Brief description of the City & Neighbourhood Services
- Detailed presentation of two of the committee's key priorities within the Corporate Plan:
    - o Neighbourhood Regeneration
    - o Waste & resourceful Belfast

Members were provided with a workshop pack containing further information about the committee, the City & neighbourhood Services Department and previous achievements. (see Appendix 2)

Following the presentation Members held a discussion to consider two questions:
- What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities?
- Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource?

3.2 The feedback from members was collated (see Appendix 3) and a summary is listed below:
- Strong emphasis on the need to prioritise climate mitigation and environmental factors including renewable energy.
    - o Importance of addressing issues and the need to set targets.
    - o Suggestion to reflect this importance in reports and decision making (eg including a sustainability impact section in committee reports).
    - o Climate Crisis working group minutes to be presented to P&C Committee monthly.
    - o Specific mention of electrification of fleet and the need to take into account infrastructure, costs, targets.
    - o Future proofing BCC buildings & facilities.
- Development of an anti-poverty strategy.
- Importance of protecting neighbourhood renewal funding for communities & other funding allocation focus to be on areas of deprivation.
- Emphasis on outcomes and monitoring impact:

	- o ensuring plans have appropriate targets and outcomes.
	- o enabling closer alignment to the Belfast Agenda.
	- o to support effectiveness of AWGs.
	- o to help fulfil potential of assets eg community centres.
	- Members request to be more involved in priority setting.
	- Emphasis on collaboration with others - council cannot do all on its own:
	   - o across council departments (especially planning in terms of climate issues).
	   - o with NI Assembly Departments (including consideration of shared contracts to reduce costs and minimise duplication).
	   - o with communities – 'working with' not 'doing to.'
	   - o importance of the Belfast Agenda and Community Planning.
	- Changes in council can be challenging and have an impact on staff but also there are opportunities for creative approaches to better meet our customer needs eg. providing targeted advice in recycle centres; operating more flexible opening hours at recycling centres; street cleansing dealing with weeds; increased use of appropriate SLAs etc.
	- Focus on Belfast becoming a greener city in terms of use of park, open spaces, wilding.
	- Concern about lack of space and facilities regarding cemeteries and crematorium.
	- Concern regarding growth of HMO areas and the need to support communities and mitigate impact.
	- Closer working with relevant partners to address health inequalities and improve quality of life.
	- Funding allocations to disability groups to take into consideration higher associated costs eg. specific transport, suitable facilities etc.
	- Prioritisation of adequate services for children and young people and also older people.

3.3	Next steps It is proposed that officers draft a more detailed Committee Plan taking into account the feedback from the committee workshop and the relevant priorities from within the Corporate Plan and bring this back to Committee for consideration and agreement.
3.4	Financial & Resource Implications There are no financial or resource implications directly relating to this report.

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no implications directly relating to this report
4.0	**Appendices**
	Appendix 1 - Presentation slides 10 September 2019 Appendix 2 - Member Workshop pack Appendix 3 - Feedback from the Committee Planning workshop